

time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final EIS. To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments should be as specific as possible. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.

Michael R. McGee is the responsible official for this environmental impact statement.

Dated: September 28, 1998.

Michael R. McGee,

Acting District Ranger, Red River Ranger District, Nez Perce National Forest, P.O. Box 416, Elk City, ID 83525.

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BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service (RHS), USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; Comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Housing Service's intention to seek a regular three-year clearance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) of new reporting and recordkeeping requirements in support of the Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program Origination and Servicing Handbook. These requirements have been approved by emergency clearance by OMB under OMB control number 0575-0175.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by December 7, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carl Wagner, Senior Loan Specialist, Multi-Family Housing Processing Division, Rural Housing Service, USDA, Room 1243, Stop 0781, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250, telephone, (202) 720-1627.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program Origination and Servicing Handbook.

OMB Number: 0575-0175.

Expiration Date of Approval: February 28, 1999.

Type of Request: Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection.

Abstract: On March 28, 1996, President Clinton signed the "Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996." One of the provisions of the Act was the authorization of the Section 538 Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Loan Program, adding the program to the Housing Act of 1949. The program has been designed to increase the supply of affordable multifamily housing through partnerships between RHS and major lending sources, as well as State and local housing finance agencies and bond issuers. Qualified lenders will be authorized to originate, underwrite, and close loans for multifamily housing projects requiring new construction or acquisition with rehabilitation of at least \$15,000 per unit will be considered.

The housing must be available for occupancy only by low or moderate income families or persons, whose incomes at the time of initial occupancy do not exceed 115 percent of the median income of the area. After initial occupancy, a tenant's income may exceed these limits; however, rents, including utilities, are restricted to no more than 30 percent of the 115 percent of area Median Income for the term of the loan.

Units must be located in rural areas considered eligible as defined in 7 CFR 3550.10 (not just the designated areas as defined in 7 CFR 1944.228).

The purpose of this Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program Origination and Servicing Handbook is to provide lenders and Agency personnel with the "how-to" administrative guidance needed to aid them in the implementation of 7 CFR part 3565, Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program (GRRHP). Throughout the Handbook, the user will find reference to the applicable corresponding action in 7 CFR part 3565. The references will be in italicized brackets and a copy of this regulation is provided in Appendix 1 of the Handbook. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the reporting and recordkeeping requirements for 7 CFR part 3565 have been approved by emergency clearance by OMB under OMB control number 0575-0174.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to range from 5 minutes to 2 hours per response.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities and not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 50.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 250.56.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 854.75.

A complete copy of the information collection package and Handbook can be obtained from Tracy Gillin, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, at (202) 692-0039.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent via the U.S. Postal Service to Tracy Gillin, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, STOP 0742, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250-0742. Comments may also be sent via Federal Express to Tracy Gillin, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, USDA-Rural Development, 3rd Floor, 300 E. St., SW., Washington, DC 20546. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record. A comment is best assured of having its full effect if the Agency receives it within 30 days of publication of this notice.

Dated: September 22, 1998.

Jan E. Shadburn,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 98-27020 Filed 10-7-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Economics and Statistics Administration

Census Advisory Committees

AGENCY: Economics and Statistics Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.